

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 19, 2015, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members John Warshow, Chris Martin, and Andy Perchlik; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Road Foreman Dan Tetreault; Visitor Ed Berry; Will Walters (Hardwick Gazette)

At 6:08 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Andrew Perchlik

Wall on Route 2: Ed Berry addressed the Selectboard to discuss the wall in front of his house. It is made of clay blocks that are crumbling. It was installed when the new sidewalk was built, but it is not clear whether the wall was built as part of the sidewalk project or at the request of the homeowner at the time. Ed has spoken with Don Marsh, the engineer for the job, and he thinks it was part of the sidewalk project.

Chris found a change order to install a versablock wall as part of the project. It appears that the wall was changed to clay block later, possibly by the person who owned the home prior to Mr. Berry. Dan Tetreault will get an estimate for a new wall, and investigate different materials.

Winter Sand: Dan has received a price of \$7.50 per yard from Gravel. Ken Davis offered a price of \$6.00 per yard. Dan stated that the sand we have received from Gravel has been very good. The sand that we have received from Davis in the past has less stone in it, so it freezes and we have to use more and it is more labor-intensive to separate the frozen chunks from the usable sand. Chris moved to buy the sand from Gravel, and put the trucking out to bid, with the understanding that the town might haul some of the sand if the road crew has down time. Andy seconded – all in favor.

Winter Maintenance in Peacham and East Montpelier: The Board asked Bobbi to bill the same amount as last year.

School Street Bridge: The deck is cracking. The bridge should be on the State's replacement list.

Scanner for Town Clerk: The Board approved the purchase of a scanner for the Town Clerk's Office. The older scanner does not work with the newer version of Windows.

Cows: Phil Leibold's cows have been getting out almost every night for the last couple of weeks. The Town has received complaints from several residents. Chris feels that the fence is not well-maintained. Chris has spoken with Mr. Leibold and told him to fix his fences.

Insurance: The old dugout collapsed and had to be rebuilt. The dugouts have not been on the town's property schedule. The Board asked Bobbi to add them to the policy.

Changing Table: The Board approved a changing table for the Old Schoolhouse Common.

Water in the Old Schoolhouse Common: Ernie and Dan worked on the drainage issue. Chris has tiles to replace those that are missing from the gym floor, but he doesn't want to replace the remaining tiles until we are sure that the water issue is fixed.

VT Alert: The Board discussed the system that would allow residents to sign up for voluntary notification in case of emergencies; town officials and the fire department could initiate alerts. Andy will find out what the training requirements are.

Cemetery Investments: Bobbi explained that the cemetery funds should be separated into perpetual care funds and operating funds, but the funds have never been tracked that way. She is going through old town reports, to reconstruct the records and determine how much of the cemetery balance is for perpetual care.

Sheriff's Contract: The Board executed a contract with the Washington County Sheriff for speed patrol.

Bike Path: The Board met with the Conservation Commission, Stranahan Stewardship Committee, and the bike club to walk the property and see where the trail might go.

Chris thinks we need to answer whether the sugarmakers are OK with it and whether the other trails could be used. Andy would like to know what the process was to decide where the best place is for a trail; he wants to be sure it was a fair and open process. Bobbi stated that she and Jim Brimblecombe support the idea of a bike trail but they do have concerns. They are worried about safety if the main sap lines are not raised high enough and a biker hits them, potential damage to the tubing if someone accidentally goes off the trail, and the extra work involved to raise and lower the main lines before and after sugaring season. She noted that they will work with the bike club if the Selectboard determines that the sugarwoods is the best place for the trail. Andy will contact Tristan from the bike club about other possible locations for a trail.

Green Up: The Board discussed the tire collection during Green Up. The town pays \$4 to dispose of tires, but only charged people \$2. Chris feels that for people wanting to dispose of their own tires, we should be charging what it actually costs. He also suggested that maybe we should have a special tire collection day.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the May 19, 2015 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
